

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JANUARY 11, 2005

**HEALTH AUTHORITY**

It is the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors to provide leadership and oversight of all Department of Health Services' functions, including the operations of County hospitals.

A separate Health Authority would only add a layer of fat and bureaucracy, and there is no guarantee that it will improve the efficiency of services delivered. In New York, for example, political interference has hindered the Health Authority's ability to close outdated facilities. In Alameda County, transition to an independent Health Authority was fraught with problems with transiting personnel and payroll services that proved costly and problematic. This Health Authority is currently facing a \$9 million deficit. San Francisco's Health Commission has duplicated efforts in the budget process wasting taxpayer monies and confusing efforts in health planning and operations.

Los Angeles County has budgeted nearly \$652 million for King-Drew and Health Services Administration, including annual salaries and employee benefits to the Director

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**MOTION**

Burke	_____
Yaroslavsky	_____
Knabe	_____
Antonovich	_____
Molina	_____

of Health Services' Dr. Thomas L. Garthwaite (\$330,000), Chief Operating Officer Fred Leaf (\$249,000), overall King-Drew Hospital management (\$923,000), Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen (\$259,000), as well as the \$13.6 million Navigant is paid for management consulting at King-Drew.

It is the Department of Health Services' responsibility to operate County hospitals to protect patients and provide quality care. We need to hold managers accountable. If they cannot do the job they need to step aside. Creating a health authority is a rip off to the taxpayers.

This County has the infrastructure in place to focus on Health Services and County hospitals.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors hold quarterly governing body meetings for each hospital, on a rotating basis. These meetings would consist of a formal governing body report provided by the Department of Health Services and the leadership of the respective hospitals. These presentations would address, but not be limited to, reports on the following areas: Medical Staff/Professional Staff Association, Medical Staff Credentialing and Privileging, Nursing, Administration, Quality Assurance/Risk Management, Staff Recruitment and Retention, and Financial Indicators.

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